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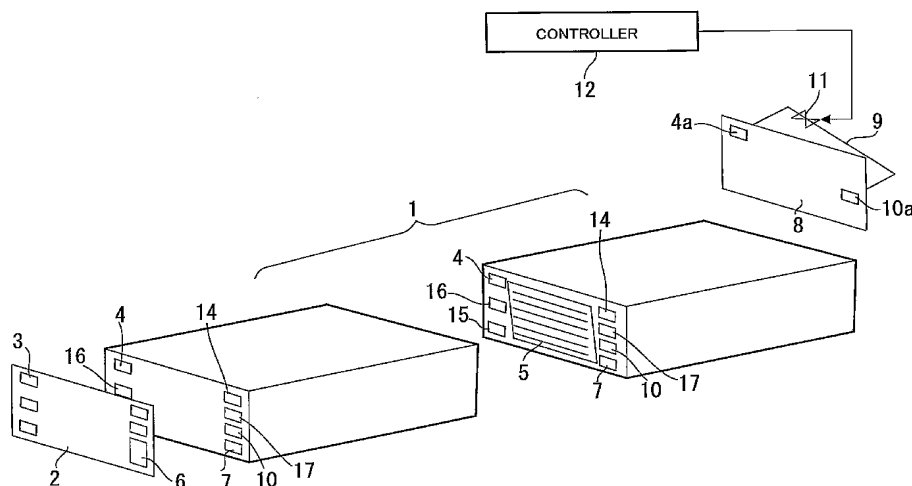
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(54) Title: FUEL GAS SUBSTITUTION DEVICE FOR FUEL CELL STACK



(57) Abstract: There is provided a fuel gas supply manifold (4) which extends through a plurality of cells (1) in the stacking direction and which is adapted to introduce a fuel gas to the cells (1). There are provided a bypass passage (9) connecting the downstream end of the fuel gas supply manifold (4) to the fuel gas exhaust manifold (7), and a valve (11) for opening and closing the bypass passage (9). When starting the supply of a fuel gas to the fuel gas supply manifold (4), the valve (11) is opened, whereby most of the air in the fuel gas supply manifold (4) is driven away to the exterior through scavenging by the fuel gas by way of the bypass passage (9) without causing it to pass through the interior of the cells.

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